

Troopers Searching for Driver in Serious Pedestrian Hit and Run

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Suspect Vehicle struck pedestrian

Presented by Director of Public Information Sergeant Richard D. Bratz

Ocean View, De.-The Delaware State Police are investigating a serious hit and run crash that has left a male pedestrian injured this morning.

Preliminary investigation indicates the crash occurred today, Monday, June 12, 2017, at approximately 10:57 a.m. as Stephen

K. Rapley, 69 of Bethany Beach, was standing near the passenger side of a 2016 Ford Econoline box truck in the parking lot of the Atlantic Community Thrift Shop located at 34634 Atlantic Avenue, Ocean View. The suspect vehicle, an unknown make and model red vehicle, entered the parking lot and drove in a north east direction and struck the right side of the box truck which subsequently pinned the pedestrian in between the vehicles. After impact the vehicle stopped and the driver and passenger switched positions. The suspect vehicle then drove off in an unknown direction.

The 69 year old male was treated at the scene by the Sussex County Paramedics and was transported by ambulance to the Beebe Healthcare Medical Center and admitted with multiple injuries.

Troopers continue to collect and analyze evidence at the scene to determine make and model of the striking vehicle.

The parking lot in the area of the collision was closed for approximately one hour while the crash was investigated and cleared. Troopers continue to investigate this incident.

Troopers are attempting to locate the driver and vehicle that fled this crash and request anyone with information in reference to this incident to contact, the Cpl. T. Wright at Troop 4 at 302-752-3898. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

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